MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR (*Agastisvaram*): From the Budget allotments for the years 1103, 1104, 1105, 1106, 1107, and 1108, may I know whether it is not possible for a reasonable and prudent man to form a conclusion that a step-motherly treatment is given to the Nagercoil P. W. Division when compared to other Divisions ?

PRESIDENT: That is not a supplementary question.

Import and export of rice and paddy in 1106.

20. **MR. K. P. ABRAHAM** (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the quantity of rice or paddy that was necessary for consumption throughout the State in 1106 ;

(*b*) the average quantity of rice or paddy which is required for consumption in the State for a year ;

(*c*) the quantity of rice or paddy obtained in 1106 by cultivation of the lands in the State ;

(*d*) the quantity of rice and paddy imported into the State in 1106 ;

(*e*) whether any quantity of rice or paddy is being exported from the State, and, if so, the quantity exported in 1106 ;

(*f*) whether all the taluks of the State produce the same quantity of rice or paddy ;

(*g*) whether they control the import of rice and paddy in any measure ; and

(*h*) whether they by any means encourage the consumption of local paddy in preference to the imported rice ?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) No statistics are available on this point. But on the assumption that the *per capita* consumption is one *nazhi* of rice or two *nazhies* of paddy per diem, the total quantity consumed may be about 15,300,000 cwts. of paddy.

(*b*) On the above assumption, the quantity of paddy required for consumption in the State in a year may amount to 15,300,000 cwts.

(*c*) About 10,000,000 cwts.

(*d*) 1,884,586 cwts. of paddy and 3,237,059 cwts. of rice were imported into the State during 1106.

(*e*) Small quantities of paddy and rice are being exported. The quantities so exported in 1106 are 37,830 cwts. of paddy and 4,517 cwts. of rice.

(*f*) No ; because the acreage under paddy and the fertility of the soil vary in the different taluks.

(*g*) No.

(*h*) No.

MR. K. P. ABRAHAM (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*) : With reference to answer to part (*h*), may I know whether Government have considered the question of encouraging the consumption of local paddy in preference to imported paddy ?

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MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) : About 80 to 90 per cent. of the local production is consumed in Travancore itself. So there is no necessity for encouraging consumption of paddy locally produced.

MR. K. P. ABRAHAM (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*) : What about the remaining percentage?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) : Every person has a right to export his own commodities.

MR. K. P. ABRAHAM (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*) : Have the Government considered that the whole of the paddy required for consumption in Travancore should be produced in Travancore itself?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) : No necessity has arisen for the Government to consider that question.

MR. K. P. ABRAHAM (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*) : From the answer to part (*d*) it is seen that paddy is imported into Travancore.

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) : Yes, in large quantities.

MR. K. P. ABRAHAM (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*) : Have the Government enquired why paddy is exported from Travancore when it is necessary to import paddy into the State?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) : That question has not come to the Government for enquiry.

Objections re rules for the constitution and working of irrigation boards.

21. MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR (*Agastisvaram*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether they received objections or suggestions regarding the revised rules relating to the constitution and working of the irrigation boards under the Kodayar Project ;

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, the names of the persons from whom the objections or suggestions came ;

(*c*) the gist of those objections ; and,

(*d*) the action taken by them thereon?

MR. P. VISVANATHA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*b*) Suggestions have been received from the member himself.

(*c*) The suggestions made are that the age qualification for a Block Board elector under rule 6 of the draft rules may be reduced from 21 years to 18 years, that there may be 6 meetings of the Central Board instead of 4, as provided for in rule 15 (i), and that the rate of fees that a Block Board may levy, may be fixed at half a rupee instead of one rupee as laid down in rule 21.

(*d*) The suggestions are under the consideration of the Government.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR (*Agastisvaram*) : May I know the date on which they received the objections relating to the Irrigation Board?

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